

Message Text

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ACTION EB-08

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C O N F I D E N T I A L PARIS 01858

USOEC D

EXCON

E.O. 11652: XGDS1

TAGS: ESTC: COCOM

SUBJ: NETHERLANDS MEMORANDUM ON CONTROL STATUS OF EQUIP-
MENT IN WHICH COMPUTERS ARE EMBEDDED

REF:)PARIS 1701

1. IN ADDITION TO MEMORANDUM OUTLINED REFTEL, NETHERLANDS DELEGATION HAS SUBMITTED MEMORANDUM ON "CONTROL STATUS OF EQUIPMENT IN WHICH COMPUTERS ARE EMBEDDED" -- COCOM DOC. PROC. (78)1, (TEXT IN PARA 3). AT SPECIAL COCOM 1091/1500NI DISCUSSIONS NETHERLANDS DEL STATED HIS GOVERNMENT WOULD LIKE SPECIAL COCOM MEETING OF EXPERTS TO BE HELD IN VERY NEAR FUTURE ON SUBJECTS CONTAINED IN THIS MEMORANDUM AND IN MEMORANDUM IN REFTEL. HE SUGGESTED LAST HALF OF FEBRUARY FOR SUCH A MEETING USDEL RESPONDED THAT BECAUSE OF COMPLEXITY OF ISSUES INVOLVED IT IS LIKELY HIS AUTHORITIES WOULD FIND SUCH AN EARLY DATE SOMEWHAT PREMATURE FOR SUCH DISCUSSIONS. TIMING FOR SUCH A MEETING WILL BE DISCUSSED AT NEXT COCOM MEETING JANUARY 24.

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2. ACTION REQUESTED: INSTRUCTION ON RESPONDING TO PROPOSAL FOR MEETING IN NEAR FUTURE ON SUBJECGS CONTAINED IN THE TWO MEMORANDA.

3. TEXT OF COCOM DOC. PROC. (78)1:

"IN THE US MEMORANDUM, COCOM DOC. DEF (77) 1091/42, REFERENCE HAS BEEN MADE TO THE SUBJECT OF

CONTROL-STATUS OF' EQUIPMENT WITH EMBEDDED COM-
PUTER' WITH THE FOLLOWING WORDING (SEE PARA-
GRAPH 3 OF THAT DOCUMENT):
IN MANY PRACTICAL CASES IN THE NETHERLANDS, AND
MOST LIKELY BY ALL MEMBERS ADMINISTRATIONS.

IN THE NETHERLANDS THE TWO BASIC DECISIONS CRI-
TERIA ARE:

A) ADMINISTRATIVE PRINCIPLE 3; IN WHICH THE MOST
DECIDING FACTOR IS THE JUDGEMENT WHETHER THE COM-
PONENT (IN THIS CASE MICROPROCESSOR, MICROCOMPU-
TER OR COMPUTER) IS TO BE CONSIDERED THE PRINCI-
PAL ELEMENT OR NOT.

B) THE EQUIPMENT'S ESSENTIAL CHARACTER, (THE
SAME CRITERION WAS RECENTLY INTRODUCED BY THE US
OFFICE OF EXPORT ADMINISTRATION - SEE US EXPORT
ADM. BULLETIN NUMBER 167, MAY 6, 1977).

THE NETHERLANDS IS, THEREFORE, INCLINED TO CONSI-
DER THE RELEVANT PROBLEM, FOR ALL PRACTICAL PUR-
POSES, AS BEING SOLVED. CONSEQUENTLY THE NETHER-
LANDS DO NOT FIND IF PREMATURE TO TOTALLY DECON-
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TROL CERTAIN 'EQUIPMENT IN WHICH COMPUTERS ARE
EMBEDDED'.

IF, HOWEVER, THE US AND POSSIBLE OTHER MEMBERS,

NOT SHARE THIS NETHERLANDS CONCLUSION, IT IS OF IMPORTANCE TO CLEAR THE PROBLEM BEFORE THE LR 1978. DUE TO THE EXPLOSIVE APPLICATION OF 'COMPUTERS' IN ALL KINDS OF EQUIPMENT (CIVIL, INDUSTRIAL CONSUMER, PTT ETC.), THIS 'EQUIPMENT WITH EMBEDDED COMPUTER' ISSUE WILL DEFINITELY APPEAR IN MANY I1 1500 ITEMS.

THE NETHERLANDS, THEREFORE PROPOSE TO DISCUSS THIS QUESTION OF APPROPRIATE CONTROL FOR EQUIPMENT WITH 'EMBEDDED COMPUTER' IN A SPECIAL COCOM MEETING, WELL IN ADVANCE TO THE BEGINNING OF THE LR 1978."

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